

VZCZCXRO2733  
PP RUEHFK  
DE RUEHKO #4004 2410618  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 290618Z AUG 07  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7040  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY  
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY  
RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY  
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 2863  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 6489  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 8686  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1861  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 4747  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 5670  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 004004

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STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,  
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;  
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;  
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;  
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;  
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;  
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: CORRECTED TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - 8/22 SPEECH  
OF  
PRESIDENT BUSH ON IRAQ

LEAD STORIES: Most Wednesday papers led with the results of their opinion polls taken after Monday's cabinet reshuffle, showing that support for Prime Minister Abe improved by as much as 13 points to 44 percent.

[¶1](#). "Bush's Controversial Reading of War History"  
Washington correspondent Arimoto of the conservative Sankei wrote (8/29): "President Bush's speech on August

22 rejecting calls for a pullout of US forces from Iraq

has generated controversy for his reference to the US victory over Japan in WWII and the Vietnam War. His direct linking of the Iraq war and the Vietnam War was the most controversial part, as he spoke of the 'tragedy' that occurred in Vietnam after the US withdrawal. As the president is now in a tight corner in the face of calls by some of his fellow Republicans to get out of Iraq, it will be interesting to see how the US public evaluates President Bush's reading of history.... The White House is reportedly pleased that the speech has elicited so much public interest. It is uncertain to what extent his interpretation of the Vietnam War will be shared by the public. There is no question, however, that he achieved his goal of igniting debate about the comparison."

DONOVAN